




GRANT ELEMENTARY

GRIZZLY NEWS November 2023

CONTACT US

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Wisconsin Rapids WI 54494

Phone: 715-424-6766

 Grant Elementary-WRPS

From the Desk of Mrs. Calteux....

Dear Grant Families,

I hope you are enjoying the beautiful fall season. As the days grow shorter and the air becomes crisper, it's a clear sign that winter is just around the corner. With that in mind, I'd like to address a few important matters in our November newsletter.

****Appropriate Winter Attire****

Wisconsin winters can be quite challenging, with cold temperatures and snowy conditions. It's crucial to ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. Please make sure they have warm coats, gloves, scarves, and hats to keep them comfortable during their outdoor activities. Don't forget to label your child's winter gear, as it's easy for items to get mixed up in the bustling world of elementary school. If you need assistance with warm clothing, please consider attending the next Keep Kids Warm event on Tuesday, November 14th, or contact Samantha Radtke, our school counselor. Remember, you must sign up to attend on November 14th. The link to sign up can be found [HERE](#).

****Parent-Teacher Conferences****

Our upcoming Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for November 2nd and November 7th. This is a wonderful opportunity to discuss your child's progress and any concerns or questions you may have. To sign up for a conference time, please visit [Skyward Family Access](#). We value your involvement in your child's education and look forward to productive discussions during these meetings.

****Veterans Day Ceremony and Photo Submission****

On November 10th, Grant Elementary will hold a special Veterans Day ceremony to honor those who have served our country. If you have a loved one who is a veteran and would like to submit their photo for our Veterans Day video presentation, please send it to Mrs. Calteux at nicole.calteux@wrps.net by November 6th. This is a meaningful way for our students to learn about the sacrifices made by these brave individuals.

****Thanksgiving Break****

As we approach the end of November, we'd like to remind you that Thanksgiving break is just around the corner. School will be closed from November 22nd to November 26th, allowing families to spend quality time together, express gratitude, and enjoy the holiday season. We hope you have a warm and wonderful Thanksgiving celebration.

**PLEASE CALL BEFORE 11 AM
WITH AFTER SCHOOL CHANGES**



November Calendar

- 02** Parent/Teacher Conf.
3:45-7:45 pm
- 07** Parent/Teacher Conf.
3:45-7:15 pm
- 14** Absentee/Retake
Picture Day
- 22** NO SCHOOL
Thanksgiving Break
- 23** NO SCHOOL
Thanksgiving Break
- 24** NO SCHOOL
Thanksgiving Break

MEALTIME PRICES

Check your account via
[Skyward Family Access](#)

Breakfast

Paid	\$1.50
Free/Reduced	\$0.00

Lunch

Paid	\$2.15
Reduced	\$0.40
Free	\$0.00

Milk

\$0.45

Students who take milk for their cold lunch, or an extra milk with hot lunch, will be **charged \$0.45**, regardless of pay status (i.e., Free, Reduced).

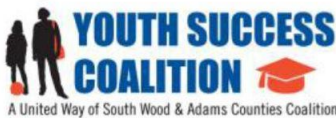
From the Desk of Mrs. Calteux....*continued*:

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, I want to express our gratitude for your ongoing support of Grant Elementary. Your involvement, dedication, and partnership in your child's education are invaluable, and we are thankful for the strong sense of community that exists here.

We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming Parent-Teacher Conferences. Thank you for entrusting us with your children's education, and we wish you a joyful November.

Warm regards,

Mrs. Calteux
Principal, Grant Elementary School



Empowering Youth: The Boys & Girls Club of the Wisconsin Rapids Area

Currently serving over 400 youth, Boys & Girls Club programs provide much indeed after-school care, while helping youth develop character and build academic & life skills.

Healthy lifestyles are learned through physical activity, healthy habits, and social emotional learning. The *Second Step* program teaches members how to identify, understand, and manage emotions.

STEM activities ignite interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, while creative arts projects encourage self-expression and artistic appreciation.

Club members also get fun and unique opportunities to participate in programs like NBA Math Hoops which teaches math & social emotional skills through basketball over a 12-week program.

Committed to all ages, the Teen Center offers programs like *Career Launch* for job-ready teens to learn important soft skills; and *Teen Cuisine*, for hands-on cooking instruction. Additionally, the *Work Force* program allows teens to gain valuable job experience within the Club, and the *Cougar Paths* program in partnership with MSTC offers guided career exploration.

To learn more, reach out to Member Service Director Cheyenne Kester at ckester@bgcwra.org or 715-818-5252.

Art Fundraiser Coming Soon!



Grant School is participating in a fundraiser with Art to Remember! This program benefits our art department and you will have the opportunity to purchase keepsake items customized with your child's artwork. The products make great gifts for friends and family members!



Proper Dress for Recess



Above 50°F



Short Sleeves

40°F to 50°F



Long Sleeves

0°F to 39°F



Winter Gear

(coat, hat, gloves, boots, snow pants)

0°F to Feels like -9°F w/Wind Chill

=

10 Minute Recess

Feels like -10°F w/Wind Chill

=

NO OUTSIDE Recess



Kids go straight to the playground in the morning after being dropped off at school, so it's important that they're properly dressed and warm. Please send kids with warm coat, hat, snow pants, boots, and gloves.

Winter Reminders



Please label all coats, hats, gloves, snow pants, and boots with your child's name. Anything unclaimed goes to lost and found.



If the wind chill is above 0 degrees, we'll be outside for recess. We check temperatures before we head outside.



How does school get canceled due to weather?



WISCONSIN RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Parents may be interested to know how school closure decisions get made when inclement weather sweeps across our area. The number one priority in every closure decision is the safety of our students, and what is in the best interest of all students. When schools close, we lose valuable learning time with your child(ren), and many families have concerns or complications surrounding childcare. Furthermore, there may be times when parents feel differently about whether school should be open or closed based upon the weather. Should this happen, the District encourages parents to make a decision that they believe is best for their child's health and safety.

Decisions to close school are not taken lightly; and a great deal of thought and communication is involved in the process. Following are some details about what is involved in the weather-related school closure process, and how a final decision gets made:

As the Superintendent of Schools, I monitor weather conditions relative to snow/ice precipitation and gather input and feedback from all appropriate sources including meteorologists, transportation providers, and area highway personnel and/or law enforcement agencies that have personnel out driving on our roadways. Additionally, in cases of extremely cold temperatures and/or wind chills, a decision to close generally comes into play when temperatures will continue to remain around 35 degrees below zero or lower.

I will make every attempt to make a school closure decision as early as possible, and in no case later than 6:30 a.m. of the morning when school is to be in session. When feasible, decisions are made on the evening prior to the school day so that parents can make the appropriate arrangements necessary for childcare, if needed. Unfortunately, this early decision is not always possible given the unique weather patterns of Wisconsin.

You can find out about school closure decisions in a variety of ways:

- ⇒ Through email, text, and phone alerts generated by our Skylert notification system – you can sign up for these alerts through your “Family Access” account
- ⇒ By liking the District Facebook page, you will see inclement weather-related posts

from WRPS come up in your newsfeed (facebook.com/wrpsdistrict)

- ⇒ By going to our www.wrps.org webpage – weather closure alerts get posted at the top of the main District page, once a decision has been made
- ⇒ You can sign up for community related alerts through [Nixle](#) and receive a variety of school district, law enforcement, and other notifications for our area which you may find of interest
- ⇒ By listening to local radio and television news stations

Note that when school gets canceled, all other activities scheduled in school buildings for that day are also canceled. As outlined in [Board Policy 723.1](#), ***it is possible that certain dates will be designated as Remote Learning Days*** – your school will individually communicate more about expectations for students on these dates when they occur.

Once school begins for the day, schools generally will not dismiss early unless absolutely necessary in order to avoid complications with transportation and childcare arrangements. Again, the safety of our students is always at the forefront of the decision-making process.

A decision to close during the school day will occur by 10:00 a.m., and lunches will be served to students in grades KG-12 before they are dismissed. **Middle school students will be dismissed first at 12:00 p.m., followed by Lincoln High students at 12:20 p.m.; and the elementary students will dismiss last at 1:00 p.m.** Afternoon sessions for our 4K and River Cities High School programs are automatically canceled if we close early. Communication to parents about an early release is similar – via Skylert, our District webpage and social media pages, Nixle, and various local media outlets.

School closure decisions are not always popular, and I can appreciate that parents may have different opinions about whether or not school should be canceled. Again, we always leave the final decision up to parents about whether to keep their child(ren) home if they feel this is best for their circumstance.

We sincerely appreciate your understanding and support when school closure decisions become necessary on inclement weather days. The decisions are not always easy, but they are definitely made with the best interest of all students in mind.

If you have questions concerning this information, feel free to contact me.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Broeren'.

Craig Broeren
Superintendent
craig.broeren@wrps.net
715-424-6701



**WISCONSIN RAPIDS
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**



**2023-2024 ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY STATEMENT
INCLEMENT WEATHER DAY PROCEDURES**

CANCELLATION

If bad weather during the night makes it impossible for buses to run in the morning, the following procedure will be used:

Announcements will be made using our Skylert system for parents, posts on the WRPS District webpage (www.wrps.org), the Nixle alert system, and also reported to these media outlets **as early as possible**, but in no case later than 6:30 a.m.:

- | | | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| WGLX (103.3 FM) | WFHR (AM 1320) | WSPT (97.9 FM) | WAXX (104.5 FM) | WIFC (95.5 FM) |
| BIG CHEESE (107.9 FM) | WDLB (AM 1450) | WKQH (B 104.9FM) | WAYY (AM 790) | WDEZ (101.9 FM) |
| WYTE (106.5 FM) | WLJY (105.5 FM) | WPCN (AM 1010) | I-94 (94.1 FM) | WRIG (AM 1390) |
| HOT (96.7 FM) | WOSQ (92.3 FM) | WAOW-TV 9 | WSAW-TV 7 | WOZZ (94.7 FM) |
| | | | | WSAU (AM 550 or 99.9FM) |

EARLY DISMISSAL

If bad weather develops during the morning while school is in session, the following procedure will be used:

- ◆ Lunches will be served before the students are dismissed. (There is no lunch for 4K students.)
- ◆ Buses will run according to the following schedule:

Middle School	12:00 p.m.	
Assumption High School	12:10 p.m.	
Lincoln High School	12:20 p.m.	
River Cities High School (a.m. session)	11:00 a.m. (as usual)	*** Afternoon RCHS sessions will be canceled.
Elementary Schools (Public & Parochial)	1:00 p.m.	*** Afternoon early education unit sessions will be canceled.
Morning 4-Year Old Kindergarten Session	10:45 a.m.	*** Afternoon 4K sessions will be canceled.

Announcements of the early dismissal will be made on the above listed stations by 10:00 a.m., advising parents that their children will be sent home early.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

If an event or trip is canceled, it is the responsibility of the coach/advisor to inform the participants (the news stations listed above may be used for this communication). The safety of our students and staff is the primary consideration when making these decisions. While the "importance" of an event, the difficulties of rescheduling, and other inconveniences are recognized; safety is the only issue that is a factor in these decisions. Your cooperation, understanding, and assistance in these matters will be appreciated.

Questions regarding this Administrative Policy Statement should be referred to Superintendent Craig Broeren at 715-424-6701.


Craig Broeren
Superintendent



*LIKE our WRPS
Facebook account, or
follow us on Twitter to
get up-to-date weather
closure information!*



Dear Mom, Dad, or Caregiver;

The people of South Wood County have historically been very generous during the holiday season to help assist families in need. One such generosity is the Marine Corps Reserve, "Toys for Tots" (TFT) Christmas for Children program. During the 2022 holiday season, "Toys for Tots" will be jointly operated by the Grand Rapids Lions and FOCUS ("Feeding Our Communities with United Services").

If your family is in need this holiday season, please follow the below steps:

- 1) Register your family:
 - a. On or after **October 15, 2023** please complete the online referral form at <https://wisconsin-rapids-wi.toysfortots.org> and click "Apply for Toys" (Preferred); **OR**
 - b. Fill out the referral form (**please print**) and make sure to include age and gender and a cell phone contact number;
 - c. Return the referral form to the main office of your child's school by **December 01, 2023**.
 - d. **Please only complete one referral form.**
- 2) You will receive an email acknowledgement that your application has been received.
- 3) Toy pickup will be on 12/16/2023 from 9 am-12:30 pm at Mariani Cold Storage located at **1909 32nd St N, Wisconsin Rapids**. **There is no assigned time. You must bring your acknowledgement letter with you.**
- 4) This will be the only opportunity to pick up your toys. In the event you cannot attend the pickup please send an authorized individual, **with your acknowledgment letter**, to the pickup on your behalf.

Additionally, FOCUS will have a holiday food basket available. **Please note: in order to receive a holiday food basket your family must meet the FOCUS Food Pantry income guidelines.** If you meet the guidelines, please call FOCUS after November 1st at 715-422-2050 to register for your holiday food basket. **Holiday food baskets distribution will also be on December 16th at 2321 W Grand Ave Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495.**

Please do not indicate you want a holiday food basket on the TFT referral form. **Only those contacting FOCUS Food Pantry and registering for a holiday food basket will receive one.**

Sincerely;

**The Grand Rapids Lions Club and
FOCUS**



2023 REFERRAL FOR TOYS FOR TOTS

HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD (PLEASE PRINT)

FIRST NAME	MID. INTL.	LAST NAME	
STREET ADDRESS			Apt./Lot #
CITY		STATE	ZIP CODE
CELL PHONE (_____) _____ - _____		EMAIL ADDRESS _____ @ _____	

HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

LIST ALL CHILDREN LIVING IN THE HOUSEHOLD (PLEASE PRINT)

First and Last name (Mandatory)	SCHOOL	Age	Gender
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			

Note: This information may be shared with school staff and other agencies offering holiday assistance.

HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE _____

SCHOOL CONTACT _____ - SCHOOL _____

If you are in need of a Christmas Food Basket please contact the FOCUS Food Pantry at: (715) 422-2050

